

# 8 EXPRESS NETWORK



## NORTH

### Rajasthan issues alert as man tests positive for Congo fever

**Jaipur:** The Rajasthan health department has sounded an alert after it came to the notice of officials that a 32-year-old resident of Jodhpur had tested positive for the Crimean-Congo Haemorrhagic Fever (CCHF). According to officials, the resident's two children are also suspected to have contracted

the disease and all three of them are currently undergoing treatment in Ahmedabad. Health Minister Raghu Sharma directed officials to conduct surveys and take precautionary measures to contain the spread of the disease. The viral fever has high morbidity rate of up to 40 per cent in India. **ENS**



A three-storey house collapsed in Kolkata's Bowbazar on Tuesday, two days after many residents were evacuated after their houses developed cracks due to the ongoing work for East West Metro corridor. *Partha Paul*

## EAST

### Two JMB suspects arrested in Bengal, say police

**Kolkata:** The Special Task Force of Kolkata Police on Tuesday arrested two more suspected members of the Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh from Malda district, taking the total number of arrests to four in the last eight days. Abdul Bari (28) and Nizamuddin Khan (28) were arrested from Shamsi police station area in Malda dis-

trict. Police claimed the JMB members had planned to make north Bengal their new base. "The duo were the main organisers in the newly-detected Uttar Dinajpur module. As per instructions of their top leaders, they were trying to re-organise, recruit and conduct trainings..." said DC (STF) Subhankar Sinha Sarkar. **ENS**

## WEST

### Ahmedabad blasts accused to travel to Delhi for trial

**Ahmedabad:** A special designated judge has permitted six accused in the 2008 Ahmedabad serial blasts to travel to New Delhi for a day, after a court there issued warrants to produce them for trial in the 2008 Delhi serial blasts case. Fifty-eight people were killed in serial blasts across Ahmedabad on July 26, 2008, alleged to have been carried

out by the Indian Mujahideen. A special court is currently holding trial inside Sabarmati Central Jail. The six accused, Saquib Nisar, Abdul Qadir, Zeeshan Ahmad, Zia-ur-Rehman, Mohammad Shakeel and Asif Basiruddin Shaikh, have also been directed by the court not to speak to the media or any individual. **ENS**

## SOUTH

### Police complaints over writer's remarks on NRC

**Thiruvananthapuram:** Several people have filed police complaints over remarks made on social media about the NRC in Assam by Malayalam writer and All India Radio programme director K R Indira. Indira, who works in Thoothukudy, Tamil Nadu, said "brothers in Kerala" are worried about where those

excluded from the final NRC would head to. "They can be rehabilitated in the camps of illegal migrants, without vote, adhar card and ration card. They could be sterilised to prevent from multiplying," she wrote. "No doubt that *thathas* (a word used for Muslim women) would continue to beget children..." **ENS**

## Nath removes excise officer over audio clip

**Bhopal:** Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath removed Dhar district excise officer Sanjeev Dubey late on Tuesday after an audio recording of the officer's phone conversation with a whistleblower went viral on social media.

In the recording, Dubey is purportedly heard telling the whistleblower that a liquor contractor was paying some Congress ministers and legislators an amount between Rs 10-20 lakh, and that it was not possible to pay a certain Congress MLA more money.

"Had there been so much money in the liquor business, the Ambanis would have sold liquor," Dubey purportedly said in the recording.

Nath has ordered an inquiry into the allegations levelled in the audio recording. **ENS**

# 'Muslims didn't offer prayer since 1934 as they were not allowed to'

Idols placed inside mosque in 1949 in a planned, surreptitious attack, SC told

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 3

QUESTIONING THE contention that Muslims had not offered prayers at Babri Masjid except on Fridays after 1934, one of the appellants in the Ayodhya dispute told Supreme Court on Tuesday that this was because they were not allowed to.

"Hindus say they (Muslims) didn't pray there after 1934... and a virtue is made out of that... It's because you didn't let them pray. And then you say limitation comes in," Senior Advocate Rajeev Dhavan, appearing for M Siddiq, told a five-judge Constitution bench headed by CJI Ranjan Gogoi.

The bench, also comprising Justices S A Bobde, D Y Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S A Nazeer, is hearing appeals against the September 30, 2010 verdict of Allahabad High Court which made way for a three-way division of the dis-



puted 2.77 acres.

Justice Bobde asked Dhavan, "...was there any action taken by any Muslim who went there and said, 'I'm not being allowed to pray'?"

Dhavan replied that the Wafk inspector had given a report, which he said showed Muslims prayed in the inner courtyard only on Fridays. He said although the key was with the Muslims, the police allowed the mosque to be opened only on Fridays, when it was cleaned and prayers were offered.

The bench asked whether the witness, who claimed that Muslims were not allowed to

pray, was cross-examined. Dhavan replied, "We are only [concerned] on the veracity of the statement of the witness."

Reiterating the assertion that idols of Hindu deities were placed inside the central dome of Babri Masjid on the intervening night of December 22 and 23, 1949, Dhavan contended that the "sequence of events" showed it was a "planned, surreptitious attack".

While those supporting the temple contend that idols "appeared" on their own — "swayambhoo" — Dhavan said, "Appearance of idols of deities inside Babri was not a miracle. It was a planned and surreptitious attack."

Accusing then Faizabad District Magistrate K K Nair of playing a role in the "conspiracy", Dhavan said Nair later contested the Lok Sabha polls for Bharatiya Jan Sangh, the precursor to BJP.

Dhavan also said the temple side's claim to the entire area,

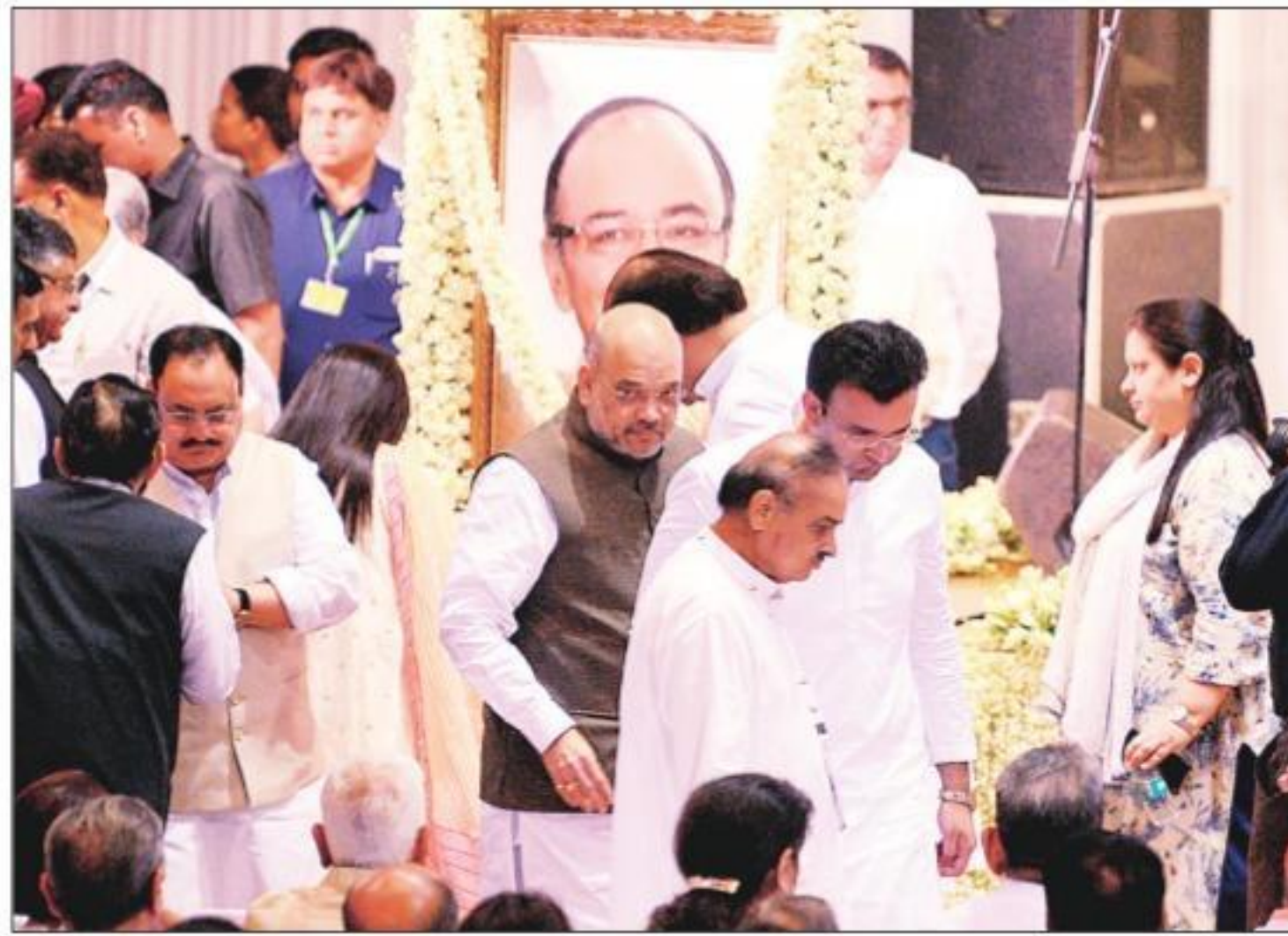
and not just the spot referred to as Janmasthan was based on the "swayambhoo" argument. If the court accepts the swayambhoo argument, he argued, Muslims get nothing.

On this, Justice Chandrachud asked, "When a place assumes the character of a juridical person by virtue of birth of a deity or marriage of a deity, then wouldn't areas abutting the spot where the garlands were exchanged also become part of it?"

Dhavan replied, "That's assuming Muslims were not praying there."

### SC notice on 'threat' to Rajeev Dhavan

The apex court on Tuesday issued notice to one N Shannmugham, a Chennai-based octogenarian professor, on a plea by Rajeev Dhavan, alleging threats for representing the Muslim parties. In his complaint, Dhavan also attached a WhatsApp message that he received from another person.



Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP working president J P Nadda and other senior leaders pay tribute to former Union minister Arun Jaitley at a prayer meeting in New Delhi. *ANI*

# In J&K, questions over whether Urdu will remain official language

**MUZAMIL JALEEL**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 3

ON THE ground in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), one of the questions being raised after the Centre's decision to scrap the state's special status and bifurcate the state into two Union Territories, is whether Urdu will remain the official language.

Section 47 of the J&K Reorganisation Act empowers the new Legislative Assembly of the Union Territory of J&K to "adopt any one or more of the languages in use in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir or Hindi as the official language or languages to be used for all or any of the official purposes."

The business in the Assembly, the law states, shall be transacted in the "official language or lan-

guages of the UT of Jammu and Kashmir or in Hindi or in English."

Before August 5, Urdu was the official language of J&K state, while official transactions and orders were also conducted and issued in English.

When contacted, J&K Governor's advisor Farooq Khan told *The Indian Express*: "All special provisions have been thrown into the dustbin of history where they always belonged. In the new set-up, everything will be done afresh. A child has taken birth, so it will be nurtured with all the love and care by the Government of India. The Centre's welfare schemes, which used to be mutilated in the previous set-up, are being pursued with full vigour."

Asked about the status of Urdu as J&K's official language post-August 5, Khan said: "The

Reorganisation Act is very clear that the new official language or languages will be chosen by the new Assembly. Hindi is the national language so it would be an official language of the Union Territory of J&K. Urdu will also be given its due place. English will also be used as it is being used currently."

Dogra rulers recognised Urdu as a state and official language of J&K in 1889. Before Urdu, Persian was the official language of Kashmir for around three centuries. In J&K, Urdu is the language of land and revenue records, courts (especially lower judiciary) and police (FIRs etc are all written in Urdu). It is also the mode of instruction in government schools, especially in Kashmir and the Muslim-majority districts of Jammu and Kargil.

With different languages

spoken in J&K — Kashmiri, Dogri, Gojri, Ladakhi, Pahari and Balti — Urdu emerged as a link language during Dogra rule, especially because it wasn't the mother tongue of any substantial group.

The entry of All India Services in J&K in 1962 led to a decline in the use of this official language in the higher echelons of power because the officers — majority of them non-locals — didn't know Urdu and preferred English. Urdu, however, continued to be the main language of the government.

In January last year, the PDP-BJP government constituted the first ever State Council for Promotion of Urdu Language. It had argued that "Urdu is not just the official language and spoken in all its regions, it is also a vast repository of the cultural heritage of the Indian sub-continent known as Ganga-Jamuni Tehzeeb".

per cent of the estimated cost of the project to the J&K Wildlife Protection Department for conservation and preservation of wildlife and habitat, among other conditions.

The standing committee decided to recommend the proposal subject to the condition that "the project proponent will comply with all the conditions imposed by the State Chief Wildlife Warden".

It also directed that "a wildlife conservation plan should be prepared by the Chief Wildlife Warden and implemented in cooperation with Army authorities to mitigate the impact of the project, the annual compliance certificate on the stipulated conditions should be submitted by the project proponent to the State Chief Wildlife Warden and an annual compliance certificate shall be submitted by the State Chief Wildlife Warden to Government of India.

# Babri litigant alleges bid to assault, death threat to withdraw case

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
LUCKNOW, SEPTEMBER 3

IQBAL ANSARI, one of the main litigants in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid land dispute case, has lodged a police complaint alleging that two persons, including a woman, on Tuesday attempted to assault him at his house in Ayodhya and threatened to kill him if he did not withdraw the case.

Ansari claimed he was rescued by his family members and the two police gunners provided to him for security. He claimed that the two persons have been seen near his house over the last two days.

Police have taken the accused persons to the police station for questioning. "We are inquiring into the allegations... On the basis of the inquiry report, the next course of action would be taken," said Additional Superintendent of Police, Ayodhya City, Vijay Pal Singh.

Singh said the woman identified herself as Vartika Singh while the man called himself

Prabhu Dayal Singh, and they both claimed to be from Lucknow. "Police are verifying their credentials," Singh said.

Ansari said the two persons reached his house at Kalyana locality around 1 pm and told the police gunners that they wanted to meet him. "I allowed them to come in... The woman identified herself as Vartika Singh and claimed she was an international shooter. While discussing triple talaq and Babri Masjid demolition case for around 10 minutes, she suddenly got aggressive and said that because of me, the temple is not able to be built. I told her that the matter is pending in court and whatever it will decide we would follow it. The woman then started hurling abuses at me," Ansari claimed.

"The woman then asked me to withdraw my claim in the Babri Masjid land dispute case and also threatened to shoot me if I did not do what she was asking for. She also attempted to assault me but I was rescued... Police were informed and they reached with women police constables and took both the persons with them."

# Students 'attack' teacher who spoke about J&K special status

**ARUN SHARMA**  
JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 3

STUDENTS OF a state government-run school in Ramban district allegedly attacked a teacher in a classroom after he reportedly said that the Centre had followed proper procedure in scrapping special status of Jammu and Kashmir.

As the incident led to tension between two communities in the area, Ramban Deputy Commissioner Nazim Zai Khan constituted an inquiry committee headed by Additional Deputy Commissioner and Additional SP, sources said.

On Tuesday, students held a demonstration and boycotted classes seeking action against the teacher. They were later per-

sueded by the school principal to return to their classes. "We can say something only after the teacher comes to school. He is now on leave," the principal said.

The teacher had reportedly told the students on Friday that the Centre had followed proper procedure in scrapping J&K's special status, and spoken about the potential benefits of the move. When the school reopened on Monday, the teacher was taking a class when a group of students barged in and attacked him.

The teacher claimed he had only answered students' queries on Article 370, the procedure for abrogation of special status and its impact on people. On Monday, he said, some students from higher classes entered the classroom and asked two students to

stand up. "When I intervened, one of the intruders locked the doors from inside while others beat me. I managed to come out of the classroom on the first floor, but the assailants tried to throw me down," he said.

While the principal was on leave, other teachers locked their colleague in a classroom to protect him from students and an angry mob that had gathered outside the school building.

Police arrived, and the teacher was taken to hospital. Doctors kept him under observation for 24 hours before discharging him on Tuesday, the teacher said.

Meanwhile, prohibitory orders under Section 144 of CrPC were reimposed in Mandi area of Poonch district after nearly a week of these being lifted.

# Jaishankar: How to cut communications for terrorists, keep it open for others?

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 3

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS Minister S Jaishankar has said that the communication "impediments" in Jammu and Kashmir have been undertaken to avoid violence and bloodshed, and pointed to the difficulty in keeping communications open for citizens while cutting it off for terrorists. However, he said there will be easing of restrictions in the coming days progressively.

On Pakistan, he made it clear that dialogue is possible only when the neighbouring country stops terrorism targeted at India.

In an interview to *Politico Europe* in Brussels, where he was visiting last week, Jaishankar said, "At the moment, what we are seeking to do is to avoid any situation likely to lead to violent situation or bloodshed. Why would you have violence and bloodshed in this state? How do you have violence in a state like this? One, for example, by activating terrorist assets that are already in place. Guess what, it has been happening for many years now. Therefore, communication impediments..."

When asked about people suffering from the communication restrictions, he said, "Yes, sure. But if you tell me how do I cut off communications between the terrorists and their masters on the one hand, but keep the internet open for other people? I would be delighted to pass on this information."

On Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's op-ed in the *New York Times*, in which he says there is an invitation offering India dialogue, Jaishankar was categorical about Delhi's position: "India wants normal



S Jaishankar

neighbourly relations with Pakistan... Now here's the problem: for many years now, and many decades now, the Pakistanis have been conducting terrorist campaigns and terrorist activities against India. Now, I ask you: how do you have normal neighbourly relations with a country that openly practises terrorism?"

He cited Khan's earlier interviews where he spoke about terrorists in his country. "The issue is not whether you talk or not, [but] do you talk to a person who simultaneously conducts terrorism against you, or not?... we are happy to talk to any country, including Pakistan, provided Pakistan stops this terrorism..."

On scrapping special status of J&K under Article 370, Jaishankar said the provision was temporary and an obstacle to growth and development. "There was a temporary provision of the Indian Constitution... What was meant as a short-term measure extended to a point where it affected governance, where it affected development and where it created an atmosphere — you know, because of the lack of development — of separatism in some quarters, which then served as an excuse for Pakistan to practise cross-border terrorism."



# Restrictions on prayers by Muslims since '34, SC told

**AYODHYA LAND DISPUTE** SC sends notice to professor for allegedly threatening Waqf board lawyer, to hear case after 2 weeks

**HT Correspondent**  
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**NEW DELHI:** On the 18th day of the hearing in the Ram Janambhoomi-Babri Masjid land title case, the Muslim parties told the Supreme Court on Tuesday that Muslims were not allowed to offer prayers except on Fridays at the disputed site in Ayodhya after 1934.

Senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan, who appeared for the Muslim parties, rebutted arguments of the Hindus side that Muslims never offered prayers at the Babri Masjid. "Hindus say they [Muslims] did not pray there. It is because you did not let them pray," Dhavan said. He rejected the other side's argument that Muslim's claim to the title was barred by limitation.

Dhavan made the submissions before a five-judge bench led by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi hearing an appeal against the September 30, 2010, verdict of the Allahabad high court that ordered a three-way division of the disputed site spread over 2.77 acres. The bench also comprises Justices SA Bobde, DY Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and SA Nazeer.

Dhavan's assertion prompted Justice Bobde to ask: "As a matter of fact, was there any action taken by any Muslim who went there

and was not allowed to pray," Dhavan said Muslims prayed in the inner courtyard of the mosque on Fridays. He added though the keys of the mosque were with the Muslims, police would allow it to be opened only on Friday when it was cleaned and prayers were offered.

He said the idols of Hindu deities were placed inside the central dome of the structure on the intervening night of December 22 and 23, 1949. Dhavan added the sequence of events established it was a "planned and surreptitious attack." He contested the Hindu side's version that the idols appeared at the place "swayambhoo [on their own]".

"If the court accepts the swayambhoo argument, the Muslims get nothing," he argued.

Justice Chandrachud recalled the argument offered by the counsel for Ram Lalla being a juridical person (legal identity) and asked Dhavan: "When a place assumes the character of a juridical person by virtue of birth of a deity or marriage of a deity, then would not the areas abutting the spot where the garlands were exchanged also become part of it?" "That is assuming Muslims were not praying there," the senior counsel replied.

Earlier in the day, the court issued a notice on Dhavan's con-

## ONE DETAINED IN UP AFTER LITIGANT ALLEGES ATTACK

**Pawan Dixit**  
■ Pawan.dixit@htlive.com

**LUCKNOW:** Iqbal Ansari, one of the petitioners in the Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid title suit currently being heard in the Supreme Court, was allegedly attacked by international shooter Vartika Singh at his residence in Ayodhya on Tuesday, police said.

According to the police, Singh accused Ansari of being a hindrance in the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya, asked him to withdraw his petition from the Supreme Court and then attacked him.

However, before the situation could take an ugly turn, Ansari's security guards intervened and prevented the shooter from causing any injury to him.

On the basis of an alert from Ansari's family members, policemen from the

Ram Janmabhoomi police station reached the spot and took Singh and another person who was accompanying her into custody.

"Vartika Singh has been detained. We are investigating the case," said Vijay Pal Singh, superintendent of police, Ayodhya. Meanwhile, Singh has accused Ansari of misbehaving with her when they were discussing the Ram temple issue and said "this led to the incident."

Police said Singh, along with her companion, reached Ansari's residence on Tuesday.

"While discussing the Ram temple issue, she accused me of being an obstacle and asked me to withdraw my petition from the court (Supreme Court)," Ansari said over phone. "All of sudden she got agitated and started hitting me. My security men intervened."

tempt plea against an 88-year-old Chennai-resident, N Shanmugham, who allegedly threatened and cursed the senior advocate for taking up the case on behalf of Muslim parties. The court will hear the petition after two weeks. Shanmugham's son, S Guru-

nathan, said that his father is unwell and was not available to make any comments. "As my father is 88, he is not well. He cannot speak to anybody," Gurnathan said while refusing to make any comments on the notice issued to his father.

# Kamal Nath's nephew sent to Tihar for 14 days

**HT Correspondent**  
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**NEW DELHI:** A Delhi court on Tuesday sent Ratul Puri, nephew of Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Kamal Nath, to Tihar jail for 14 days in the Enforcement Directorate's money laundering case related to a bank loan fraud.

Special Judge Sanjay Garg sent Puri to judicial custody after the probe agency said he is not required for further custodial interrogation. ED arrested Puri on August 19 in relation to a ₹354

crore bank fraud case linked to his now-defunct company Moser Baer.

A Moser Baer official said the company "will support the agencies in true spirit in accordance to governance principles that were pillar to its success story."

Meanwhile, another trial court hearing a separate money laundering case related to the aborted Augusta Westland VIP chopper deal directed Tihar jail authorities to produce Puri before it on Wednesday when special judge Arvind Kumar is likely

to decide on Puri's application seeking to surrender in the chopper scam.

When Puri offered to surrender in the Augusta Westland case last month, ED said this wasn't possible as he was already in their custody in another case.

The latest money laundering case, in which Puri has been sent to judicial custody, emerged from a Central Bureau of Investigation FIR, registered on August 17, in which Puri, his father Deepak Puri, mother Nita (Kamal Nath's sister) and others have been

named as accused for cheating the Central Bank of India.

Puri's company Hindustan Power Projects Power Ltd had earlier denied his role in Augusta-Westland VIP Chopper scam.

The case pertains to alleged irregularities in the purchase of 12 VIP choppers from Italy-based Finmeccanica's British subsidiary, Augusta Westland. The ₹3,600-crore deal was scrapped in 2014 over alleged breach of contractual obligations and charges of payment of kickbacks for securing the deal.

## SC grants 4 more months to Centre, Punjab, Haryana on SYL issue

**HT Correspondent**  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Tuesday granted four more months to Punjab, Haryana and the Centre to resolve differences on the Sutlej-Yamuna Link Canal, saying it was willing to wait for an amicable settlement to the dispute to be worked out.

A fresh time frame was fixed by a bench led by justice Arun Mishra after attorney general KK Venugopal asked for three more months to discuss and settle the vexed dispute. The bench gave four months for the talks after the Haryana government counsel said the court must fix a time frame for concluding the discussions. The counsel said the talks cannot go on indefinitely.

The Punjab government has demanded a negotiated settlement between the two states with the help of the Centre. The two states are at loggerheads over a controversial 1981 water-sharing agreement. Haryana state was carved out of Punjab in 1966.

The agreement proposed the construction of the SYL canal for effective allocation of water, with each state required to fund the portion falling in its territory. While Haryana completed its portion of the SYL canal, Punjab, after the initial phase, stopped work on it. This led to multiple cases reaching the top court.

In 2004, the Congress government in Punjab came out with the Punjab Termination of Agreement Act to annul the 1981 agreement and all other pacts relating to sharing waters of the Ravi and Beas rivers. This was two years after the top court decreed Haryana's suit and ordered Punjab to fulfil its commitments on water sharing.

In 2004, the Supreme Court rejected Punjab's original suit and asked the Centre to take over the remaining infrastructure work on the canal.

## PUNJAB HAS DEMANDED A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT BETWEEN IT AND HARYANA WITH HELP OF THE CENTRE

# Chidambaram to be in CBI custody till September 5

**HT Correspondents**  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Former Union minister P Chidambaram will continue to be in Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) custody until Thursday, September 5, after the Supreme Court on Tuesday extended the partial reprieve protecting him from being sent to Tihar jail.

The CBI custody would help keep 73-year-old Chidambaram out of Tihar jail despite solicitor general Tushar Mehta telling the court that the investigating agency had no more questions to ask the former finance minister in the INX Media case.

"We don't want custody any more... Let the law take its own course," Mehta told a two-judge bench led by justice R Banumathi on Chidambaram's petition against a lower court order remanding him to CBI custody for interrogation. "Just because one man doesn't want to be placed in judicial custody, why should this court pass any order," Mehta said, arguing that the Supreme Court should not regulate what should happen in a trial court.

The bench extended the



■ P Chidambaram. PTI

reprieve to Chidambaram after his legal team assured the bench that they will not press the bail application before the trial court on Tuesday, later in the day. Senior advocates Kapil Sibal and Abhishek Manu Singhvi said they will wait until September 5.

On September 5, the Supreme Court will pronounce its verdict on Chidambaram's petition seeking anticipatory bail in the Enforcement Directorate (ED) case of money laundering against the senior Congress politician and Rajya Sabha member, and also take up his petition challenging the CBI's action against him.

The CBI filed an affidavit in the court opposing Chidambaram's petition challenging the remand order by a trial court judge in the

INX Media corruption case, saying it would set a "bad precedent" as the Congress leader's move was not in line with the remedy available to him under procedures. CBI said Chidambaram should have procedurally applied to the Delhi high court but, instead, chose to come directly to the top court for relief. In matters of bail and anticipatory bail, the high court is the final arbiter and the top court intervenes if only extraordinary and special reasons are shown.

CBI said Chidambaram's personal liberty was not more important than that of ordinary citizens as it questioned the step taken by the former minister in selecting the judicial platform. CBI said if the top court agrees to hear his petition, other common citizens too would be entitled to similar relief.

Outside the court room, on being asked if he had anything to say about his custody, Chidambaram hit out at the National Democratic Alliance government over the slump in Gross Domestic Product growth, which slowed to 5% in the April-June quarter and said, "5%. What is 5%? Do you remember 5%?"

## Sterling case: Patel's son summoned again by ED

**HT Correspondent**  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Enforcement Directorate has once again summoned Faisal Patel, son of senior Congress leader Ahmed Patel, in connection with its investigation into a ₹5,000 crore bank fraud and subsequent money laundering by Sterling Biotech Ltd (SBL), a company promoted by the absconding Sandesara brothers, an official familiar with the development said.

The official added on condition of anonymity that Faisal Patel will be asked to explain his association with the Sandesaras on Monday. A former employee of the company, Sunil Yadav, told the anti-money laundering agency that he once handed over Rs 5 lakh to Faisal's driver in a market in New Delhi on the instructions of Chetan Sande-

ara. Faisal Patel was examined at length last week but there are certain clarifications still required from him, said the officer.

Faisal Patel did not comment on the developments.

ED in June attached moveable and immovable properties worth ₹9,778 crore of SBL, Sandesara group and promoters Nitin and Chetan Sandesara under the provisions of PMLA (prevention of money laundering act).

Earlier in 2018, the agency attached assets worth ₹4,730 crore of the business group and its promoters. The case was registered against them by ED after the Central Bureau of Investigation registered a first information report against them in October 2017 for cheating and bank fraud to the tune of ₹5,383 crore, officials said.

The Sandesaras are allegedly hiding in Nigeria.

## SC pulls up rights panels over child trafficking case

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Tuesday expressed anguish over the "fight" between the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) and the West Bengal State Commission for Protection of Child Rights on a matter related to alleged trafficking of children from an orphanage in the state.

"What is this happening? It is very unfortunate that two statutory bodies are fighting like this. It is sad that both of you cannot come to a conclusion for the welfare of these children," a bench comprising justices Deepak Gupta and Aniruddha Bose said.

The court is hearing an appeal filed by the NCPCR against a Calcutta HC order staying its proceedings in a case related to alleged violation of rights of orphaned children in Bengal. **PTI**

**CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS**  
**E-TENDER NOTICE**

E-TENDER NOTICE E-tenders are invited for and on behalf of the President of India for the following work: **SL.No.011; Tender No. Dy ELA/27/P-17D ;Name of the work: Bi Yearly Contract for Hiring of one 10 (ten) ton Road Crane for ELA shop-16 on regular basis @ maxin. two days in a week from 8.00 hrs. to 16.00 hrs.; Tender value (₹): 1106560.00; Cost of tender document (₹): 2,000.00; Earnest money (₹) : 22,100.00; Period of completion (in months): 208 days. NOTE: (i) Date of closing -30.09.2019 at 13.00 hrs. (ii) Complete details can be seen in the Railway website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in) & [www.clw.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.clw.indianrailways.gov.in) (iii) Contact Number : 9136640358.**  
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**Paschimanchal Vidyut Vitaran Nigam Ltd. Muzaffarnagar**

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**Tender Opening date of tenders against specification no. PVVNL-MT/ MM/ 15(s)/ 19-20 for supply of 130 km 33 KV XLPE cable size 3x300 sq. mm is hereby extended from 04.09.2019 to 16.09.2019. Remark : [www.etenderup.nic.in](http://www.etenderup.nic.in) For detailed information please log on [www.pvvn.org](http://www.pvvn.org) & E-Tendering website [www.etenderup.nic.in](http://www.etenderup.nic.in) till the date of submission of bids. **Superintending Engineer (MM-1)** For Managing Director. Help line Number for information of Theft of Electricity : 1800-180-3002 (Meerut) & 941220745 "SAVE ELECTRICITY IN THE INTEREST OF THE NATION" पत्रांक 7527 दिनांक 02.09.2019**


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**NOTICE INVITING e-tenders**  
Delhi Transco Ltd, a Government of NCT of Delhi Undertaking, invites e-tenders for the following work:  
**Tender No.T19P111174:** Power Transformer Package for Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of 08 Nos. 160 MVA Power Transformer for various Sub-stations of DTL on Turnkey Basis. **Last date for bid submission: 25.09.2019 at 10.30 a.m.** For further details please log on **Delhi Govt website <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>** (Tender ID No.2019\_DTL\_178509\_1, and DTL website: [www.dtl.gov.in](http://www.dtl.gov.in) (Unique No. DTL-6866-290819) PR/19-20/13  
**All Corrigendum/Addendum/Amendments/Date of Extension/Clarifications, if any, to the above e-tender would appear only on the above mentioned websites.**

**चौ. बंसीलाल विद्यविद्यालय, भिवानी**


**Ch. Bansilal Vignani Memorial University, Bhiwani**

**A State University established under Haryana Act No. 25 of 2014)**  
**Advertisement**  
Bio-data of Retired eminent persons of UGC recognized Universities for the post of Professor, purely on temporary basis on consolidated remuneration of Rs. 70000/- per month are invited in various disciplines. Last date for submitting application is **07.09.2019 upto 05.00 PM.** For more details please visit [www.cbu.ac.in](http://www.cbu.ac.in). Notice/Addendum/Dedendum/Corrigendum (if any) shall only be available on the university website.  
**78505 REGISTRAR**

**Indian Railways Stations Development Corporation Limited**  
(A JV of IRCON & Rail Land Development Authority)  
Website: [www.irsdcl.in](http://www.irsdcl.in) CIN: U45204DL2012GO1234292

**Tender Notice**  
IRSDC is inviting tenders for OOH/Digital Hoardings, Pay & Use Facility, Waiting Rooms, Executive Lounge, Parking, Food Plaza, Quick Food Joints and stalls at Anand Vihar Terminal, Chandigarh, Secunderabad, Pune and Bengaluru Railway Stations. For further details about individual tenders, please visit **website <https://irsdcl.in/active>**  
**GM/Customer Experience**

**7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Tower-1, Konnectus Building, Bhavbhuti Marg, New Delhi-110002**

**hindustantimes**

**hteducation**

**THE DIFFICULTY OF BEING A TEACHER IN TODAY'S TIME**  
**NEW AGE** It's not easy being a teacher in the 21st century when the Internet has completely transformed the learning process for everyone  
**SEE PAGE NO. 19**

**DELHI TRANSCO LIMITED**


**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**  
Delhi Transco Ltd, a Government of NCT of Delhi Undertaking, invites tender for the following works:-  
**1)Tender No.T19P111131:** Procurement of ACSR Zebra conductor as per the attached technical specification and latest IS/IEC.  
**2)Tender No.T18P121747:** Third Party inspection of equipment/material, civil works, electrical works and technical audit of substation & Tr. Lines through Govt./Semi Govt. agencies.  
**3)Tender No.T19P121891:** Study/Analysis required for assessing reasons of Power Transformer failure in DTL.  
**Last date for bid submission:** (25.09.2019 for Sl.no.1), (27.09.2019 for Sl.no.2) & (27.09.2019 for Sl.no.3) at 10.30 a.m.  
For further details please logon **Delhi Govt website <https://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>** (Tender ID No.2019\_DTL\_177161\_1, 2019\_DTL\_179380\_1, 2019\_DTL\_179386\_1 and DTL website: <http://www.dtl.gov.in> (Unique No. DTL-6829-060819, DTL-6871-030919 & DTL-6870-0303919) respectively. **PR/19-20/14**  
**All Corrigendum/Addendum/Amendments/Date of Extension/Clarifications, if any, to the above e-tender would appear only on the above mentioned websites.**

**INDIAN RAILWAYS**

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS**  
(RAILWAY BOARD)  
**RAIL BHAVAN, NEW DELHI - 110001**  
**E-Tender No. TKP-1 of 2019 for developing capacity and procurement of Weldable CMS Crossings (WCMSC).**  
**No. 2019/Track-I/4711** **Date : 03.09.2019**  
1. Electronic bids are invited for and on behalf of the President of India for Manufacturing and Supply of 6000 (six thousand) sets of Weldable CMS Crossing.  
2. The interested tenderers are advised to visit the website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> for details, downloading of the tender documents and submission of their e-bids.  
(Anirban Basu)  
Dy. Director/Track-I  
Railway Board  
2837/2019  
**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**


**Govt. of Haryana**

**DIRECTORATE OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT & INDUSTRIAL TRAINING, HARYANA**  
**Kaushal Bhawan, IP-2, Sector-3, Panchkhata-134109**  
**Tel No.: 0172-5229230, 5229205**  
**Email ID: [spuicell.haryana@gmail.com](mailto:spuicell.haryana@gmail.com)**  
**Expression of Interest**  
Industries/Companies are invited to adopt about 15 Govt. ITIs being upgraded under Projects funded by Govt. of India in Haryana State. The details of Projects, Govt. ITIs available for adoption, Sector/type of eligible industry and selection criteria can be seen on [www.itharyana.gov.in](http://www.itharyana.gov.in)  
The application/proposal alongwith supporting documents should reach to this directorate within **20 days** from the date of publication of this notice.  
Dated: 05.09.2019  
78504 **Director**


**INDIAN RAILWAYS**

**"PUBLIC NOTIFICATION"**  
Notice is hereby given to all users of Railway lines and premises situated on the completed section of the under noted section of the Northern Railway that the 25 kV, 50 Hz, AC overhead traction wires will be energized on or after the date specified against the section. On and from the same date the overhead traction line shall be treated as live at all time and no unauthorized person shall approach or work in the proximity of the said overhead line.

Section	Date
Beas (Km BES/GDW/4, Chainage 0/924.00) to Tarn Taran (Km 49/10, chainage 49/410.10 of BEAS-TTO, chainage 22/337.10 of ASR-KEMK) section of UP/DN line, Temporary Beas SSP, Khadur Sahib SSP, Bainpuri SSP and including AT's in BEAS-TTO section of Firozpur Division, Northern Railway.	05.09.2019

**INDIAN RAILWAYS**

**INTRODUCTION OF 25 KV AC TRACTION "WARNING TO ROAD USERS"**  
It is notified for information of the Public that in connection with introduction of 25 kV AC electric traction over **Beas (Km BES/GDW/4, Chainage 0/924.00) to Tarn Taran (Km 49/10, chainage 49/410.10 of BEAS-TTO, chainage 22/337.10 of ASR-KEMK) section on UP/DN line, Temporary Beas SSP, Khadur Sahib SSP, Bainpuri SSP and including AT's in BEAS-TTO section of Firozpur Division, Northern Railway**, height gauges have been erected at all the level crossings with clear height of 4.67 m. above road level with a view to prevent loads of excessive height from coming into contact or dangerous proximity to live traction wire. Public are hereby notified to observe the height specified above for the purpose of loading vehicles and to see that the load carried in road vehicles do not infringe the height gauges under any circumstances.  
The dangers of a load of excessive height are as follows:-  
(i) Danger to the height gauge and consequent obstruction to the road as well as the railway line.  
(ii) Danger to the materials or equipment carried or the vehicle itself.  
(iii) Danger of fire and risk of life due to contact with or dangerous proximity to the conductors.  
**Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Const. Northern Railway, Jalandhar City**  
2827/19  
**SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE**

**TRADE FAIR AUTHORITY OF HARYANA (TFAH)**

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**  
Expression of Interest is invited in sealed covers from reputed creative agencies for empanelment by Trade Fair Authority of Haryana for conceptualizing, designing and construction of Haryana Pavilions/Stalls in various exhibitions/events.  
Interested parties may contact the office of General Manager, TFAH, C-8, Baba Kharak Singh Marg (3rd Floor) New Delhi (Phone No. 011-23343510, Mob. No. 9810532840) for detailed documents and for further information, if any. The Important dates & Times are as under:-

Sr. No.	Particulars	Important Date & Time	EOI Document fee
1.	Pre-bid meeting	06.09.2019 at 04:00 PM	
2.	Last date & time for submission of EOI	09.09.2019 upto 01:00 PM	
3.	Date & Time of opening of Pre-qualification Bid	09.09.2019 at 03:00PM	₹ 2000/-
4.	Date & Time of opening of Technical Bid/Presentation	09.09.2019 at 04:30 PM	

TFAH reserves the right to reject or accept (complete or partly) any or all the bids without assigning any reason thereof.

**Sd/-**  
**Chief Administrator**  
**Trade Fair Authority of Haryana**

**प्रतिभूति कागज कारखाना होशंगाबाद-461005 (म.प्र.)**  
(सारा प्रतिभूति मुद्रण कागज निर्यात निगम लिमिटेड की इकाई)  
सारा सकार के पूर्ण स्वामित्ववाली  
**मिनोराट्रक कंपनी : सी.पी.एस.ई. एवं आई.एस.ओ. 9001: 2015 एवं आई.एस.ओ. 14001: 2015 प्रमाणित**  
**SECURITY PAPER MILL, HOSHANGABAD-461005 (M.P.)**  
(A Unit of Security Printing & Minting Corporation of India Limited)  
**Wholly Owned by Government of India**  
Miniratna Category-I CPSE & ISO 9001 : 2015 & ISO 14001 : 2015 Certified  
Tel. No.: 07574-286847, 286776, Fax No.: 07574-255170,  
Email : [purchase.spm@spmcil.com](mailto:purchase.spm@spmcil.com), Website : <http://spmshoshangabad.spmcil.com>  
Adv. No. 33 **Date : 03.09.2019**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER**  
The General Manager, Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad, Pin 461 005 (M.P.) invites sealed tenders for supply of following materials and empanelment of vendors. Interested Manufacturers / Tenderer for detailed tender specifications / terms and conditions may please visit / downloads on our website <http://spmshoshangabad.spmcil.com> or <http://eprocure.gov.in>

Tender No.	Material Description	Qty.	Last date and time of receipt of Tender Up to 11:00 Hrs.
6000013643	Engagement a contractor to provide unskilled labours at SPM, Hoshangabad		10.09.2019
6000013656	Hiring of unskilled labours for Canteen		10.09.2019
6000013646	Purchase of Cleaners		10.09.2019
6000013665	Hiring of services of unskilled labours (Office Boys) at SPM, Hoshangabad for the period of one year		13.09.2019
6000013535	Hiring of an agency for hiring of vehicle on rate contract basis		13.09.2019
6000013520	Purchase of Spare Parts for general maintenance		17.09.2019
6000013733	Hiring of security services for residential colony area at SPM, Hoshangabad for the period of 220 days	As per tender enquiry	17.09.2019
6000013341	Procurement of Refiner Tackle		17.09.2019
6000013579	Rosin Size Grade-I		20.09.2019
6000013238	Annual Rate Contract of Bearings and Accessories		20.09.2019
6000013353	Purchase of Transparent Polythene Sheets		24.09.2019
6000013482	Annual Maintenance Contract of 3 Nos. Lifts		24.09.2019
6000013621	Purchase of various sheets, gland packing and emery papers		27.09.2019
6000013569	Purchase on Potassium Ferro-Cyanide (PFC)		04.10.2019

Any updates, Corrigendum, etc. against the above tenders shall be published on said website only. Those should not be published in any other newspaper or media.

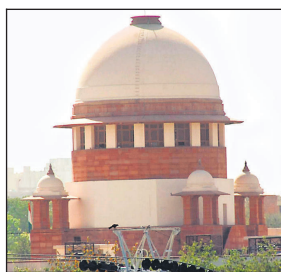
**Asstt. Manager (Material) For General Manager**



# 'Miscreants' can't have claim: Muslim parties

## Dhavan Cites 25-Year-Old Judgment In Babri Case

Dhananjay Mahapatra  
@timesgroup.com



LEGAL TANGLE

**New Delhi:** Relying on a 25-year-old Supreme Court judgment calling those who demolished the Babri Masjid "miscreants", Muslim parties on Tuesday argued before the court that "miscreants" who demolished the mosque could not claim ownership over the 2.77 acre disputed Ram Jannabhoomi-Babri Masjid land in Ayodhya.

Appearing before a bench of CJI Ranjan Gogoi and Justices S A Bobde, D Y Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S Abdul Nazeer, senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan said "miscreants" had also planned and surreptitiously placed idols inside the mosque on the night of December 22, 1949, and "miscreants" harassed Muslims to dissuade them from offering namaz regular-

ly at the mosque since the 1934 communal riots in which the structure was damaged.

"Can these actions of 'miscreants' preventing Muslims from access to the mosque be taken now as a ground by the Hindus to claim ownership through adverse possession?" he asked while citing the SC's 1994 judgment in Ismail Faruqui case, in which it had appointed the Centre as the receiver of the disputed land as well as the surrounding area which was acquired through a 1993 notification after the Babri Masjid was demolished.

A three-judge bench of the SC had said in 1994, "The miscreants who demolished the mosque had no religion, caste or creed except the character of a criminal and the mere in-

## SC sends notice to 88-year-old retired govt servant on Dhavan's contempt plea

**The** SC bench hearing the Ayodhya case on Tuesday sought response from 88-year-old retired government servant N Shanmugam on a petition filed by senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan seeking initiation of contempt proceedings against him for writing a letter cursing him with physical disabilities for appearing against deity Ram Lalla. Dhavan's counsel Kapil Sibal did not have to argue the petition as the CJI-led bench issued notice to Shanmugam and sought his response in two weeks. **TNN**

cident of birth of such a person in any particular community cannot attach the stigma of his crime to the community in which he was born."

However, in the very next paragraph of the judgment, the SC had said, "The miscreants who demolished the mosque are suspected to be persons professing to practise the Hindu religion. The Hindu community must, therefore, bear the cross on its chest, for the misdeed of the miscreants reasonably suspected to belong to their religious fold." Dhavan made full use of the 25-year-old judgment to attempt to drive home the point of Muslim parties that those responsible for demolishing the mosque could not claim ownership through adverse possession.

Dhavan said there was an unmistakable conspiracy hatched by Hindus since March 1949, which in connivance with then deputy commissioner K K Nair led to placing of idols of Ram Lalla inside the mosque under the main dome. "The idols were outside the structure on Ram Chabutra till then and Hindus were worshipping it there," he said.

"It was no spontaneous act of Hindus to place the idols inside the mosque. They did not let Muslims to pray there and then said the community did not offer namaz at the mosque," he said.

Dhavan adopted Nirmohi Akhara's argument which questioned maintainability of Ram Lalla's suit. Arguments will continue on Wednesday.

## Woman shooter attacked me, says Muslim litigant

Arshad Afzaal Khan | TNN

**Ayodhya:** Iqbal Ansari, a key litigant from the Muslim side in the Babri Masjid-Ram Jannabhoomi dispute, was allegedly attacked in his Ayodhya residence on Tuesday afternoon. Police said the accused included an "international" woman shooter and her male associate.

Ansari told the police that a woman approached his security guard at around 1 pm and introduced herself as shooter Vartika Singh and wanted to meet him. She kicked off her discussion on triple talaa and Ayodhya and within minutes grew violent, the litigant said in his police complaint. Vartika and her male associate were detained by police but later escorted to Lucknow. Police are yet to register an FIR.

Talking to **TOI**, Ansari said, "The woman asked me to withdraw the claim on the title suit and threatened to shoot me if I didn't comply.

The woman and her male associate suddenly lunged at me. If policemen guarding me hadn't intervened, I would have been grievously injured. They blamed me for not allowing the construction of a Ram mandir. I told them there are hundreds of temples in Ayodhya and I was not opposed to any temple."

When sparks flew, Ansari's guard, constable Mohammad Tahir, jumped to his rescue. Talking to **TOI**, Tahir said, "The woman suddenly got up and charged at him. Had there been a delay on my part, the woman would have inflicted injuries on Ansari."

After Vartika Singh reached Lucknow, she told **TOI** on the phone that she had indeed attacked Ansari. "When he told me that Ayodhya will be turned into Pakistan and a temple won't be built, I slapped him," she said.

Faizabad SSP Ashish Tiwari told **TOI**, "We are looking into the complaint and are yet to register an FIR."

## Priyanka may get charge of whole UP

Swati Mathur@timesgroup.com



Priyanka Gandhi Vadra

**New Delhi:** Less than a year after she formally joined Congress's organisational set-up, party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is likely to be elevated and given full charge of Uttar Pradesh, instead of the eastern region that she was handling till now.

A formal order may be issued later in the week but party insiders said the move was "not surprising" considering Priyanka has steadily deepened her engagement with party affairs in Uttar Pradesh, and has been looking after organisational affairs spanning the entire state.

The development also comes at a time when Priyanka's colleague in UP, Jyotiraditya Scindia, in charge of west UP, has been appointed chairman of the screening committee for poll-bound Maharashtra. Scindia is also at the centre of a clash with leaders in his home state Madhya Pradesh, where he is understood to be seeking the post of state chief.

Launched in January by former party chief Rahul Gandhi as the "earthquake" that would shake up the grand old party's fortunes in India's largest state, Priyanka was tasked with infusing life into the party's somnolent and near defunct party cadre.

Though she was unable to fulfil the short-term goal of improving the party's fortunes in the Lok Sabha polls — the worst was the loss of Amethi, a constituency she had managed for brother Rahul, and the party's tally falling to an all-time low of one Lok Sabha seat in UP — Congress is relying on Priyanka to deliver on its long-term goals; to resurrect the party ahead of the UP assembly elections in 2022.

Even as the party prepares for a formal announcement of her elevation, Priyanka held back-to-back meetings with UP leaders in Delhi on Tuesday, a precursor to structural changes in the state organisational set-up.

Party sources told **TOI** Priyanka wants a leaner UP Congress Committee to replace its oversized predecessor.

## Child lifting rumours: 9 thrashed in 3 attacks

Sanjay Sahay | TNN

**Ranchi:** Child lifting rumours continue to fuel mob violence in several parts of the country with three fresh cases of such barbaric crime reported from Jharkhand and Bihar in the last 24 hours. Among the victims were two railway engineers who were thrashed while they were on their way to inspect a site in Bihar's Samastipur district.

Since August 1 this year, there have been at least 148 cases of mob attacks in the country where innocent people suspected to be child lifters were targeted. Eight people have died in these attacks and at least 135 have sustained serious injuries. UP is the worst-hit state with 57 attacks followed closely by Madhya Pradesh (55) and Jharkhand (47).

In the latest attacks, six people were thrashed by a mob in Jogiyatliha village in Jharkhand's Koderma district on Tuesday while one person was targeted in another village under Jainagar police station in the same district on Monday evening.

Police rescued the six persons at Jogiyatliha village but the furious mob refused to relent, pulling out three of the victims from an ambulance when cops tried to take them to a hospital. The trio was

### CHILD LIFTING RUMOURS FUEL MOB VIOLENCE

(All figures since Aug 1, 2019)

Attacks: **At least 148**

Deaths: **8**

Injured: **135**

Arrests: **301**

**WORST-HIT STATES (Attacks)**

Uttar Pradesh **57**

Madhya Pradesh **55**

Jharkhand **47**

Source: Media reports thrashed again and the situation was controlled only after police lathi charge.

No arrests have been made in the case so far. Koderma SP M Tamil Banan said steps are being taken to identify the persons involved in the attacks. All the six victims are in their early 20s. In the second attack in Jharkhand, a trader, Shashibhushan Modi, was tied up and thrashed by a mob in Jainagar on Monday.

In Bihar, two railway engineers travelling in a car to inspect a site of a proposed railway track were held hostage and thrashed by a mob near Munnichak-Sarsauna village in Samastipur district.

## Stiff fines to replace jail terms in Essential Commodities Act

Dipak Dash@timesgroup.com

**New Delhi:** The government is considering scrapping the provision of jail term in the archaic Essential Commodities Act and replacing it with stringent fines and penalties that commensurate with the type of offence committed by traders and companies dealing with agriculture produce.

Consumer affairs minister Ram Vilas Paswan said on Tuesday that his ministry has sought suggestions from all state governments on the need to amend the law for ease of doing business and promote investment. He chaired a meeting of all state food and consumer affairs ministers and secretaries.

An official said there is a dire need to change some of the provisions as for almost all offences, there is a jail term — minimum three months and maximum seven years. This is over and above the fines that offenders need to pay. The EC Act also has provision for confiscating the stored items and seizing go-down and vehicles carrying such stuff. In some cases, even the seized property can be forfeited to the government. The law empowers court to bar a repeat offender from carrying on any business on the particular commodity for at least six months. "After getting feedback from states, we will submit it to Niti Aayog committee under Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis," said an official.

The panel under Fadnavis was set up in July at Niti Aayog meeting to suggest policy interventions in the agriculture sector including the required changes in the EC Act. Though initially the think tank had mooted the proposal to take out all agriculture produce out of the EC Act, it was felt that the law has proved effective in taming prices of many food items on several occasions.

## 'Turbulence' stops access to loo on Kol-Mum flight

Subhro.Niyogi@timesgroup.com

**Kolkata:** Passengers travelling by the late morning SpiceJet flight to Mumbai on Tuesday had a torrid time when attendants refused the use of washroom for better part of the 3-hour journey. The reason: the seat belt sign was on all through the flight save for a brief period after takeoff.

After the flight — SG 6422 — took off at 11.55am and gained altitude, the seat belt sign was switched off. But it was switched on within 30-35 minutes as the plane experienced turbulence. That was before the crew began service.

The first signs of restlessness among passengers started showing around an hour into the flight. Though the turbulence was no longer apparent, the seat belt sign stayed put. When an elderly passenger went to use the bathroom, he was escorted back to the seat by the crew.

The minutes ticked by and then

another hour. "There were intermittent periods of turbulence but also lengthy periods of relative calm. We had expected the sign to be switched off but it wasn't," said an irate passenger after the flight.

In the latter half of the flight, nearly everyone's gaze was transfixed on the overhead seat belt sign. Whenever anyone tried to make a dash to the restroom, the head attendant announced

over the aircraft public address system: "Kindly remain seated. The use of washroom is not permitted till the seat belt sign is switched off."

A SpiceJet spokesperson said the sign had been switched on to restrict movement of passengers as the flight was experiencing turbulence during cruise. An airline industry expert though said airlines did allow restroom use in emergency. "Unless there is extreme turbulence or it is directly after take-off or before landing, use of restroom is permitted," an airline veteran said.



Flyers couldn't use the washroom for better part of the 3-hour journey

### SUPER SPECIALITY CANCER INSTITUTE & HOSPITAL

C.G. City, Sultanpur Road, Lucknow-226002

Website: <https://cancerinstitute.edu.in> Email: [humanresource.sscih@gmail.com](mailto:humanresource.sscih@gmail.com)

**Faculty Appointment for Assistant Professors on Contract**

Faculty positions are available in the specialities of Biochemistry-1; ENT-1; General Medicine-1; Hospital Administration-1; Microbiology-1; Medical Oncology-2; Medical Physics-1; Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery-1; Radiodiagnosis-2 & Surgical Oncology-1.

**Start date of online payment of fees to start the application process : 04/09/2019, 10:00 hrs IST**

**Last date for online payment of fees to start the application process : 10/09/2019, 17:00 hrs IST**

**Last date for filling and submitting online application process : 11/09/2019, 17:00 hrs IST**

**Tentative interview dates : 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2019**

For further details and information, please visit the website <https://cancerinstitute.edu.in>

Adv't No. SSC/ER-7/2019-20 **DIRECTOR**

## Minister on warpath now calls Diggy 'blackmailer'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bhopal:** Chief minister Kamal Nath on Tuesday summoned minister for forests Umang Singh, who accuses party veteran Digvijaya Singh of trying to "sabotage" the government and "running it from behind the curtains".

Singhar, however, kept up his attack on Diggy Raja, calling him a "blackmailer", and questioning his persistent attacks on BJP-RSS combine. "Why does Digvijaya Singh give statements that harm Congress? Why does he speak on 'Hindu-terrorism' and say that BJP and Bajrang Dal are

spying for Pakistan?" Singhar asked. He was referring to Digvijaya's allegation that "BJP and Bajrang Dal are taking money from Pakistan's ISI". The former CM had also said that more non-Muslims are involved in spying for Pakistan than Muslims.

Singhar, who is said to be among the contenders for PCC chief post, on Tuesday called Digvijaya "number one blackmailer". "What business isn't he involved in, from sand-mining to liquor? Why is Digvijaya Singh so hungry for money? At his age, he should be singing bhajans," Singhar said.

## CEC takes charge as chief of world election body

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Chief election commissioner **Shri Arora** on Tuesday took charge as chairman of Association of World Election Bodies (AWEB), a multilateral platform for election management bodies from across the world to share best electoral practices. The CEC will serve a two-year term till 2021.

Convening the general assembly as the new chairman of AWEB, Arora noted that the very preamble of AWEB charter mentions the need to strengthen cooperation among EMBs for the purpose of ensuring a credible electoral process in the world; committing to promote condi-

tions conducive to free, fair, transparent and participative elections and to the development of a democratic culture in the world; promoting gender equality and the inclusion of people with disabilities and other marginalised communities in the electoral process. More than 110 delegates from 45 countries attended the meeting held in Bengaluru.

Arora said ECI looks forward to further strengthening its interaction and partnership with AWEB secretariat and member EMBs in promoting the activities of the group. He thanked the members for the trust and confidence reposed in the Election Commission of India.



### Excerpts of the Speech of SHRI SUNIL KR. CHAUDHARY Chairman & Managing Director in 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting

#### Dear Shareholders,

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome you all, on behalf of the Board of Directors, to the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting of your Company. This has been a landmark year in the history of the IRCON as your Company has achieved two major milestones. Firstly, we successfully completed the exercise of listing of shares at BSE & NSE in September 2018 with overwhelming investor's response; secondly, your Company has earned highest ever income of ₹ 4680 Cr. and operating turnover of ₹ 4415 Cr., on a standalone basis, with improved profitability and highest order book. Your company has ranked among top 500 listed companies in India in terms of market capitalization as on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019.

I am delighted to highlight that IRCON has been ranked amongst the Top 500 Indian Companies; Top 50 most profitable PSUs in India; the Top 10 best performing PSUs on the basis of cash efficiency; and the Top 10 PSUs on the basis of book value (per share) in 'Fortune India 500 companies list' published in the special quarterly issue of December 15, 2018 to March 14, 2019 of Fortune India Magazine.

#### Financial Performance

I am pleased to share with you that the operating income of IRCON has registered an increase of 13.47% from ₹ 3891 Cr. in 2017-18 to ₹ 4415 Cr. in 2018-19. The operating turnover from the domestic segment has reported an increase of 16.46% i.e. from ₹ 3499 Cr. in

**"An integrated Engineering & Construction Company comparable with the best in the field of infrastructure sector."**

2017-18 to ₹ 4075 Cr. in 2018-19. The profit before tax and profit after tax for the year 2018-19 were ₹ 615 Cr. and ₹ 445 Cr. respectively registering an increase of 16.04% and 14.69% respectively over the previous year.

On a consolidated basis, your Company has recorded an income of ₹ 4990 Cr. during the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 and achieved a consolidated Net Profit of ₹ 450.07 Cr. for the said financial year.

As per financial results for the first quarter ended 30.06.2019, IRCON has recorded revenue from operations of ₹ 1121 crore representing a growth of 59% over first quarter of the last year which was ₹ 704 crore. PAT for the Q1 FY19 has gone up by 78% to ₹ 141 crore as compared to ₹ 79 crore in Q1 FY19 after adjusting onetime tax refund amounting to ₹ 84 crore. Railway projects remained the focus area where the company has achieved revenue of ₹ 830 crore with a growth of 41% over corresponding period in FY19.

#### Dividend

I am pleased to inform that the Board of Directors of IRCON's has recommended a final dividend of ₹ 10.825 per share for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. This is in addition to the already paid an interim dividend of ₹ 10.72 per share in the month of February, 2019. With this, the total dividend (including Dividend Distribution Tax) for the year 2018-19 would sum up to ₹ 202.63 Cr., which is 215.45% on the paid-up equity share capital and 45.57% of the post-tax profits.

The Company also plans to increase public shareholding to at least 25% in near future as part of Minimum Public Shareholding (MPS) norms prescribed as a continuous listing requirement under Securities Contract (Regulations) Rules, 1957.

#### Operational Performance

It is a matter of pride that as of March 31, 2019, your Company has made tremendous progress over the years and so far completed 128 projects in 24 countries across the globe, and 383 projects in India. During the Financial year 2018-19, IRCON has successfully completed Majuba Rail Project in South Africa (secured in November 2015 for a value of ₹ 345 Cr.) for procurement of Plant Design, Supply and Installation of Overhead Track Equipments, Traction Sub-stations, Auxiliary Power Supplies Substations, Bulk Power Supplies Switching Stations and Signalling Systems. In the domestic segment, IRCON has also completed three projects in India. This includes two highway projects on BOT model viz. Shivpuri to Guna in Madhya Pradesh which got completed ahead of schedule and Bikaner to Phalodi in Rajasthan and one electrical project of PNVNL, Uttar Pradesh.



#### Order Book

Your Company has secured orders worth ₹ 7635 Cr. during 2018-19. As on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2019, the order book value stood at ₹ 33,901 Cr. After the close of the year, the Company has secured one new foreign project in Sri Lanka from Sri Lankan Railways under the Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation, Government of Sri Lanka for Up-gradation of Railway Line from Maho to Omanthai under Indian Line of Credit, Track Rehabilitation and ancillary works at a value of USD 91.27 Million (equivalent to approx. INR 635 Cr.). In this project, IRCON will upgrade single line broad gauge track from Maho-Omanthai of around 128 km length including associated infrastructure works. The project was awarded at the end of April 2019 and is to be completed within 36 months. The project is financed through EXIM Bank of India as per Indian Lines of Credit.

#### Recognitions

The rating of the Company under the Memorandum of Understanding for the year 2017-18 signed with the Ministry of Railways has been 'Excellent'. The Company expects to achieve 'Excellent' rating for the year 2018-19 also. Your company has signed MOU for FY 2019-20 with the Government of India for setting performance target for excellent rating showing Revenue from Operations of ₹ 5200 Cr..

#### Way Forward

With the Government proposing to increase spending in Railways, highways and other infrastructure sectors, IRCON is geared up to under take turnkey projects under new project execution models such as EPC / HAM and Annuity in the Railways, Highways and other infrastructure projects including implementation of Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Corridor with Japanese funding and other projects to be bid out on EPC and DBFOT basis. On the international front, IRCON has proved to be extremely competitive in foreign projects in the past in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka & South Africa and shall continue efforts to secure more projects in these countries. Opportunities also exist for undertaking turnkey Railway projects on Government to Government basis with Ministry of Transport, Malaysia.

In the next couple of years, with a vision to almost double its turnover, the Company intends to focus intensively on further diversifying into various other segments where its presence is either non-existent or insignificant. In view of the healthy order book and huge investments taking place in Railways, Highways and other infrastructure projects by the Government of India, I am confident that the accelerated growth of IRCON will continue in years to come. The focus of the management is to ensure timely execution of these orders with quality standards and complete client satisfaction.

#### Corporate Governance

Your company is implementing the tenets of Corporate Governance in letter and spirit. Your company accords highest importance to transparency, accountability and equity in all facets of its operations.

#### CSR & Sustainability

During the year, your company has spent ₹ 8.75 Cr. towards various CSR activities in promoting flagship programmes like Skill India, Digital India, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Swachh Bharat, Namami Gange etc. and areas like gender equality and women empowerment, environmental sustainability, employment enhancing vocational skills, welfare activities for SC/ST/OBCs, minorities and women, etc.

#### Acknowledgement

I express my gratitude to our esteemed shareholders, my colleagues on the Board of Directors and to the Chairman, Members and Officers of the Railway Board, for their valuable support, advice and co-operation and the unstinted support and trust placed in the Company and look forward to their continued support. I am also thankful for the whole-hearted support received from the Government of India, other Ministries and Departments of Government of India, Financial Institutions, Banks, Comptroller & Auditor General of India (C&AG), Statutory Auditors, Cost Auditors and Secretarial Auditors. I would like to express my sincere and heartfelt thanks to Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM), Security and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Stock Exchanges, i.e. National Stock Exchange of India Ltd. and BSE Ltd. and Registrar of Companies (ROC) for their guidance and support throughout the IPO process.

I, on behalf of the entire Board of Directors, sincerely place my appreciation for the good work done by all the employees at all levels of the Company for their commitment and hard work that has helped in delivering another successful year for the Company.

I look forward to your continued support in this journey and I am confident that with its sustainable track record and global reputation, your company will achieve new heights of success by effectively harnessing the host of opportunities and business that is expected in future..

New Delhi  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sept, 2019

Sd/-  
**(S.K. Chaudhary)**  
Chairman & Managing Director

(This does not purport to be a record of proceedings of 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual general Meeting)



**IRCON INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

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